



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

BROOKFIELD COUPLE INDICTED FOR HARBORING FILIPINO WOMAN AT HOME FOR 20 YEARS

Victim was only allowed out under supervision, and lived under threat of deportation

MILWAUKEE—A Brookfield couple was indicted on federal charges yesterday for allegedly housing an undocumented Filipino national in their home for nearly 20 years and forcing her to work as a domestic servant for little or no wages.

The couple only allowed the victim out of the house under supervision and threatened her with possible deportation if she refused to submit to such living conditions.

In a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury yesterday, the two defendants were charged with harboring an alien for the purpose of private financial gain, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and according to an announcement by Steven M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

Jefferson N. and Elnora M. Calimlim were both charged in a criminal complaint alleging that from 1985 through Sept. 29, 2004, the Calimlins employed a female Filipino national as a domestic worker who was responsible for the caring of the Calimlim children, cleaning the house, and preparing the family meals. The Filipino woman lived at the Calimlim residence and was promised a salary that would be “kept in an account.” She was working to send money home to her family in the Philippines. However, she did not have access to the account or know its whereabouts. It is alleged that the Calimlins did not allow the Filipino woman to leave their residence without supervision and convinced her to submit to these conditions by warning her of possible arrest and deportation due to her status as an illegal alien.

“To hold a domestic servant in virtual servitude for 20 years is a shockingly callous disregard for our nation’s most deeply held values,” said Brian Falvey, resident agent-in-charge for ICE investigations in Milwaukee. “As the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, ICE brings to bear all its authorities, expertise and resources to fight against those who harbor, smuggle or traffic illegal aliens across our borders.”

Special agents from the FBI assisted ICE with the investigation. Assistant U.S Attorney Tracy M. Johnson is prosecuting the case.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute an inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.